

Good News from Parks and Recreation

May 11, 2011 Parks Commission Meeting

Trails Master Plan Update:

The consultant expects to have a draft of the plan ready this week. It needs to be reviewed by the Mayor and City Administration and the TAG group before it becomes available to the public. Our division will host public input meetings this summer and refine the draft using those comments sometime this fall. The last meeting of the Trails Advisory Group (TAG) and the consultants (HKGi) will be on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 2:00 - 5:00 PM.

Members of TAG: Judy Gibbs, Parks/City of Duluth; Amy Norris, Parks/City of Duluth; Tom Kasper, Building and Grounds/City of Duluth; Cari Pedersen, Engineering/City of Duluth; Cindy Petkac, Planning/City of Duluth; Andy Holak, St Louis County Land Use; Anne Flueckiger, Cross Country Ski; Adam Sundberg, COGGS; Dick Haney, MIC/Fit City; Brett Amundson, Hartley Nature Center; Wendee Churchill, Equestrian; Scott Marshall, Snowmobile; Dwight Morrison, Wheels on Trails; Tim Larson, Skyline Preservation Alliance and Lake Superior College; Eric Viken, Parks Commission; and Hansi Johnson, IMBA.

Parks Master Plan - available on this website: http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/master_plan.cfm

DNR 10/25 Parks and Trails Legacy Plan - available on this website:

<http://www.legacy.leg.mn/funds/parks-trails-fund/plan>

Sign up for all **Parks and Recreation press releases** and other City announcements at <http://www.duluthmn.gov/> - click the yellow button on the left that says "Subscribe via E-mail".

Enger and Lester Park Golf Courses Open

Both Enger and Lester Park Golf Courses are open as of April 21. Lester and Enger Park have PGA Golf professionals on staff daily to answer your questions. Golf instruction, adult and junior leagues, golf equipment, USGA Handicap, corporate or group outings are among the offerings at both courses. Facilities hours are from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM (light to dark) seven days a week.

Lester Park Golf Course is located at 1860 Lester River Rd, Duluth, MN 55804, Phone: 218-525-0828
PGA Director of Golf - Paul Schintz

Enger Park Golf Course is located at 1801 W. Skyline Pkwy, Duluth, MN 55806, Phone: 218-723-3451
PGA Golf Professional -Eric Anderson; GCSAA Class A Golf Superintendent - Jud Crist

Heritage Sports Center/Parks and Recreation Open Skate Schedule

The popular Family Ice Skating Program continues to be offered on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 pm and in June will move to Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 to 3pm. A special "School's Out" Skating Marathon will be held Friday, June 10th, from noon to 4pm! A recent grant for new Ice Skates has been used to stock up on all sizes and styles to loan out.

Family Skate	Wed-May 18	7:00-8:30 PM
Family Skate	Wed-May 25	7:00-8:30 PM
Teen Skate	Friday-May 27	7:30-9:30 PM
Family Skate	Wed-June 22	1:30-3:00 PM
Family Skate	Wed-June 29	1:30-3:00 PM

Spring skating schedule at Heritage Sports Center features "New Teen Skate"

Parks and Recreation's "new" Teen Skate session will be held from 7:30-9:30 PM on Thursday, May 27.

Teen skate sessions are for students 13-18 years old. These sessions are free and open for pleasure skating.

Turf Time at the Heritage Sports Center

This past month a block of successful programming was conducted that began with the Spring 2011 Turf Time at the Heritage Center and brought after-school activity groups together on the indoor artificial turf to play a variety of sports and game activities. Participants and the adult staff/volunteers that accompanied them are mixed and matched to activities that pique their interests and abilities and foster positive teamwork and sportsmanship. This program is held on Thursdays from 4:30 - 6:30 pm and will continue weekly through the summer on Thursday afternoons, from 1 to 3 pm.

New Spring Activities Successful

During spring break, Family Ice Skating time was extended past the usual Wednesday night block of time and offered every afternoon from 1:30 to 3 pm. At 3:30 pm, the Turf was opened up and each day volunteers from a different, unique sports organization conducted skill sessions and pick up play. Rugby, Lacrosse, Ultimate Frisbee, Soccer and Disc Golf were the featured sports in an attempt to promote these non-traditional sports in our area.

Also in May, an hour a week is being devoted to teaching youth how to play the exciting and growing game of Ultimate Frisbee on Thursdays from 7 to 8 pm. A big "Thank You" goes out to the Dingwop Team for providing the volunteers to conduct this activity.

Bayfront Family Center

The Bayfront Family Center will be open to the public during the day, Monday - Thursday from 11 am to 7 pm, weather and volunteers permitting, starting Thursday, May 26th. Recreational equipment for groups and families to use will be made available on a limited basis. Croquet, Frisbees, Bocce, Volleyball, Kickballs, Kites, Baseball gloves, mini Soccer nets, Hula Hoops, Jump-ropes and other activities will be available as long as equipment lasts!

Summer Youth Programs

Our Community Center buildings and City Parks are going to be busy places this summer, with rentals for private gatherings and public events at an all time high and the use of our spaces by non-profit organizations for youth recreation programs happening all across the City. Woodland, Chester Bowl, Grant, Lafayette, Lincoln Shack, Memorial, Irving, and Norton Park will all have some kind of program running through the summer months for the kids in those neighborhoods. Kudos to the staff and volunteers that will make this happen!

Play Time

Play Time at Duluth Heights Community Center,, a participant-run opportunity for parents and pre-schoolers to get together in a large indoor space and play/socialize/converse with each other, is growing each week. An average of 8 adults and 15 children make use of this every Wednesday from 9 am to noon.

Arbor Day

Duluth will be celebrating Arbor Day on Tuesday, May 31 at 12:30 pm at the boulevard at 529 N 12½ Ave E. The Mayor will plant trees with neighbors and volunteers. This is another step toward regaining our status as a "Tree City".

Trails Day

National Trails Day is Saturday, June 4. Activities are being planned by Hartley and the Superior Hiking Trail. The City will be celebrating the date at Enger Park with volunteers to do trail projects from 10 am to 2 pm. More details to follow.